Prevention of accidents

†1951. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:
SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the probe into chimney collapse incident at a power plant in Korba in Chhattisgarh has been made;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the measures being taken to avoid the collapse of other chimneys?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) State Government of Chhattisgarh has informed that the State Police Department has registered a Case No. 377/09 under Section 304, 34 of IPC in the wake of the accident of falling of chimney on 23.09.2009 in one of the under construction power plant of M/s. Bharat Aluminum Company Limited (BALCO) at Korba, Chhattisgarh. The State Government has also ordered judicial enquiry to investigate the details of the accident by appointing one member Judicial Commission.

(c) Information is being collected.

Power generation at BALCO Power Plant, Korba

1952. SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that chimney of an under construction BALCO Power Plant at Korba fell killing and injuring many persons on 23 September, 2009;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the likely impact of this incident on delay in completion of project, power generation and cost escalation; and

(d) the details of the power distribution plan once this project starts functioning at optimum level?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. State Government of Chhattisgarh has informed that on 23rd September, 2009 a chimney (which was under construction) of the under construction power plant of M/s. Bharat Aluminum Company Limited (BALCO) at Korba, Chhattisgarh fell down, killing 40 labourers. The State Police Department has registered a case No.377/09 under Section 304, 34 of IPC. The State Government has also ordered judicial enquiry to investigate the details of the accident by appointing one member Judicial Commission.

(c) BALCO has informed that the impact of the incident is yet to be evaluated.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) According to the information received from BALCO, as per the Memorandum of Understanding dated 7th October, 2006, BALCO is required to supply on annualized basis to the Government of Chhattisgarh or its nominated agency 5% of the net power generated by the project at the Energy (Variable) Charges as determined by the appropriate Regulatory Commission. If the company is allocated captive coal block also in the State of Chhattisgarh for supply of coal to the project, then it will provide on an annualized basis to the Government of Chhattisgarh or its nominated agency 7.5% of the net power generated by the project at the Energy (Variable) Charges as determined by the appropriate Regulatory Commission. The Government and its nominated agencies shall have first right to purchase power upto 30% of the aggregate capacity of the generating units for a period of 20 years.

Import of power equipments from China

1953. SHRI GOVINDRAO WAMANRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a significant increase in the import of power equipments and machinery from China;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that most of such imports are done by the private power producers; and

(d) whether domestic producers are not able to supply equipments due to non-commercial conditionality in the tender?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. There has been an increase in import of power equipment from China. At present 21,519 MW of capacity both in thermal and hydro is being implemented using equipments from China. The details at thermal and hydro power projects, which are programmed to benefits in Eleventh Plan, orders for which have been placed on Chinese manufacturer/supplier on Boiler-Turbine-Generator (BTG)/Engineering Procurement and Construction (EPC)/Electro-Mechanical packages basis is given in the Statement (*See* below). Out of 21519 MW of capacity under construction during Eleventh Plan, 4794 MW is being implemented in the Government Sector (Central Sector 1200 MW and State Sector 3594 MW) and 16725 MW in the Private Sector.

(d) The bids are generally selected through competitive biddings of equipment supplier/Chinese manufacturers. However, as the target of capacity addition is high and capacity of domestic equipment manufacturers at the moment is less, so plants are being imported.